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HAPPY WINNER—Mrs. R. T. Gansen, 5120 Zakon Rd., Torrance, is the lucky winner of a handsome mink stole, first prize in Marina Federal Savings grand opening drawing. W. D. Richardson, assistant vice-president, congratulates Mrs. Gansen upon receiving the valuable prize.

Torrance Youths Soon to Enjoy New Rec Building

A major step forward in providing adequate recreational facilities for the southern portion of Los Angeles County was taken this week. Board of Supervisors approved final plans and specifications for a community recreation building at Victoria Park playground and issued a call for construction bids, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, under whose leadership the project is being carried out. Bids on the building will be opened by the County Engineer on Jan. 27.

Supervisor Hahn pointed out that construction of the new recreation building will make possible a greatly improved and expanded recreational program for the people of the large area served by the park, which was acquired two years ago and was improved with baseball fields, landscaping and a playground area last year.

Easily Accessible

Located at 189th St. and Towne Ave., Victoria Park playground is across the street from the Towne Ave. elementary school. It serves the people of Victoria Park, South Los Angeles, Gardena, Torrance, Enterprise, Dominguez, Carson and adjoining communities.

Plans for the recreation building were prepared by the architectural firms of James H. Garrot and Gregory Ain.

The new building will include a large multi-purpose room, a crafts room, a meeting room, a kitchen, offices, storage rooms and rest rooms.

Claim "Finest"

Containing 4000 square feet, the building will be of modern design and features concrete block construction. Enhancing the usefulness and beauty of the area will be a paved, walled patio of 6500 square feet. Project will also include site development, concrete walks, a flagpole and landscaping.

"From my examination of the plans, I believe that this will be one of the finest recreation buildings of its type in Los Angeles County," Supervisor Hahn declared.

He explained that in addition to the regular program of scheduled recreational programs which will be put into effect when the new building is completed, the building will be made available for the use of civic organizations, church groups, youth groups and other public activities.

Supervisor Hahn pointed out that it is wiser and more eco-

That Open Air!

Stars shone on Dale Marshall last night and the sun—if there is a sun—is also beaming on the 30-year-old man today as he drives around in his 1955 Ford convertible Thunderbird.

Marshall, on the other hand, is presumably scowling in return.

And naturally enough—Marshall is sick and tired of people stealing the roof over his head.

A few nights ago, whilst Marshall enjoyed a game or two of bowling, enterprising thieves literally lifted his convertible hardtop.

After reporting the theft to Torrance police, Marshall went home to 1637 Market St. in Gardena.

"Guess what, Mom?" he said. "What?" she said.

He told her.

Mrs. Marshall added to his joy by reminding him of the occasion two years ago when, under similar circumstances, thieves unzipped his toupee cover and made off with it.

Marshall today reportedly is thinking carefully and seriously about buying a VERY solid hard-top.

PUC PAYS CITY \$2635

The California Public Utilities Commission today allocated \$2635 to Torrance to assist in paying the city's share of the cost of installing automatic protective devices at the Arlington Avenue crossing of The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company's Harbor Branch tracks.

The Commission authorized construction of the crossing at grade last spring and it was opened for public use on May 20, protected by two flashing light signals, which are automatically activated by the approach of a train. The city has agreed to pay the entire cost of construction, estimated at \$10,540.

The allocation was made from the crossing protection fund established by the Legislature to assist cities and counties in providing improved protection at hazardous grade crossings throughout the State.

nominical for the county to provide adequate recreational facilities to prevent juvenile delinquency than it is to be constantly spending millions for new jails, juvenile halls, probation camps, police officers, probation officers and judges.

"Adults, too, need facilities where they can relax from the tensions and strains of modern day living," he stated.

PARKIN DEAD

City leaders and common folk today mourn the death of Reed H. Parkin, a well-known and respected leader of the Torrance business community.

Parkin, 58, died in his sleep Thursday night of coronary thrombosis. Final rites are set for Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. from the Pierce Brothers Inglewood Chapel.

Death ended a more than 30 year career in the Southland. As a young man, Parkin arrived in Los Angeles in 1927 and entered the University of Southern California to graduate with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Shortly after graduation, Parkin became secretary-treasurer of Menasco Motors, Inc., in Los Angeles.

After a stint at Menasco, Parkin transferred to Northrop Aircraft Corporation in 1934. Douglas Aircraft's Santa Monica plant enjoyed his services next when Parkin moved there in 1939.

Edmond R. Doak and Parkin joined in organizing the Doak Aircraft Corporation in 1940 and there Parkin remained until his death, acting in the capacity of

secretary-treasurer.

Aside from his business successes, Parkin achieved the unique distinction of being the only man to serve as president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for three terms.

A member of the Torrance Rotary Club, the Jonathan Club in Los Angeles, and the Tax Executives Club, Parkin also served as a Boy Scout Executive for many years.

A native of Salt Lake City, Utah, Parkin graduated from high school there and then entered the University of Utah as a pre-legal student before leaving for southern California and the University of Southern California.

Parkin is survived by his widow, Louise, an Inglewood school principal, as well as three children.

One daughter, Linda, 14, and two sons, Peter, 15, and Stephen Howard, 21, survive their father.

The family home at 3849 Crestway Dr. in Los Angeles was the scene for removal of the remains to the Pierce Brothers Chapel in Inglewood. Interment will be at Inglewood Cemetery.



TYPICAL VICTIM—Hendrik de Kanter, 2307 Border Ave., felled by the rampaging flu bug, gains strength from the ministrations of pretty nurse Mary Louaine Parlapiano. De Kanter can confidently expect to be bed-ridden for at least several days, feeling quite weak all the while.

Dr. Peeke Posted Chief at Torrance Memorial

Dr. George O. Peeke of Torrance will be installed as chief of staff of Torrance Memorial Hospital at the annual banquet scheduled for the Palos Verdes Country Club Saturday, Jan. 23, it was announced today.

Other incoming officers include Dr. Thomas E. Betenson of Redondo Beach, assistant chief of staff; Dr. Carlo A. Tabellario of Torrance, secretary-treasurer; and Dr. John L. Bourne Jr., of Torrance, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Dinner guests of the medical staff will include members of the Board of Directors of the hospital.

List New Officers

Dr. John F. Nursall will be the master of ceremonies, and Dr. Rodney A. Stetson will serve as installing officer. Dancing will follow the banquet.

Outgoing officers are Dr. Phillip M. Halloran of Torrance, chief of staff; Dr. John F. Grube of Manhattan Beach, assistant chief of staff; Doctor Peeke, secretary-treasurer; and Doctor Tabellario assistant secretary-treasurer.

Dr. John F. Nursall will be the master of ceremonies, and Dr. Rodney A. Stetson will serve as installing officer. Dancing will follow the banquet.

Other officers elected by the Dinner Group's Board of Directors were: James Hall, Attorney—1st Vice President, and Pioneer Merchant Sam Levy—2nd Vice President. Dean Sears of Diversified Mutual Funds was re-elected Treasurer as was Torrance Chamber Manager Dick Fitzgerald to the Secretary post.

Parkin is a native Californian, born in Pasadena. He attended Pasadena City Schools and UCLA. He has been employed for 34 years with Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, the past 7 years in Torrance as Commercial Manager.

Dick is the 1 Vice President of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Torrance Kiwanis Club, Masons, and Elks. He is also a member of the First Presbyterian Church of San Pedro, where he has resided with his wife, Lorraine, for the past 20 years. The Pyles have two children, Nancy 24 and Richard 19.

NEW BUILDING IN USE

The Taj Mahal, a new \$300,000 building, will be in use for the first time during the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival at Indio, Feb. 12 through 22.

Some Advice for Curly

Eastern prexy complains his coach talked too much, and maybe some other vocally over-confident grid mentors should have been coached to withhold that line. Chicago Daily Tribune.

Hit-Run Driver Injures Man in Freak Crash

Hit-and-run victim John Moreno is recovering today from injuries inflicted in a freakish accident yesterday morning. The 23-year-old man of 2224 Del Amo was standing near the left rear fender of a friend's automobile when a second car skidded broadside into the rear of the car. The impact knocked Moreno against the friend's car, severely lacerating his leg.

Friend Gordon M. Pollock, 21, took Moreno to Harbor General Hospital for treatment.

Pollock, 2063 Del Amo, found his car to have a badly battered rear end after the accident on 203rd St.

The offending car continued on without stopping, driving west on 203rd St. Police are seeking the driver.

In another wet weather accident early Saturday morning, George H. Richard of 24224 Park St. in Torrance skidded into a parked car at Leytan and Newton Streets.



NAVY EXPERTS AGREE—An empty deep sea diving helmet found on a Colorado River boat by YMCA boaters is a mystery indeed but it would have been stranger yet if the boys had found somebody occupying the helmet. Navy divers (left to right) Boat-

swain's Mate 2/c Sherman Byrd, Gunner's Mate Mervin G. Geopfert, and Chief Warrant Officer Alfred Sokolowski grin as they consider the possibility of an inhabited helmet while inspecting the find in the Torrance YMCA building.

Bug Rages in Schools

Flu in epidemic proportions has struck Torrance. But, unlike the rest of the Southland, Torrance is breasting the epidemic storm in comparatively fair shape. Whereas in Los Angeles, at least five schools are reported closed due to the disabling pestilence, no closings have been as yet ordered in Torrance.

Percentages as high as 40 — or more — have stricken schools, factories, and shops in Los Angeles. The highest Torrance figure is at least 10 percent below that.

Epidemic Proportions

Health officials in Torrance, however, stipulate that anything over 10 percent of the populace affected means "you're in trouble." Dr. Benjamin A. Kogan, Torrance Health District Chief made that statement today.

Kogan said, "At least one of the virus strains presently attacking the southern California area is Asian in origin. I won't stick my neck out any further than that — but you can bank on the fact that at least one is Asian."

A check with private and city offices showed that a large number of workers were appearing on the sick list due to the virulent bug.

Pupils Stricken Badly

Some 20 percent of the city's public school children fell ill to the disease in the last two days of this week. That figure represents a total of 5000 children down with the mystery bug within two days.

In this conjunction, Dr. Kogan advised against a too early return of children to school. "Children are susceptible to more serious diseases after a bout with this flu," Kogan said.

Delay School Return

"Children should be checked by their physician before returning to school," the Public Health Chief warned. "Their resistance is really down during the recovery period. A too quick rush to school could have serious consequences."

A goodly number of adults apparently are braving the bug and continuing with their duties. Police Chief Percy G. Bennett has appeared for work every day, although stricken with the debilitating disease — as have Mayor Albert Isen, numerous police officers, and other city employees in short-handed departments.

Some Hard-Hit

The Fire Department was hard-hit with 25 men down out of a total of 87.

Public Works was another heavily suffering unit of city government with some 45 stricken out of a 239 total.

Reporters placed a call to Dick Fitzgerald, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, asking for flu victim figures among the city's business houses. The call yielded negative results, however, as Press reporters were informed that the Chamber manager had also succumbed to the busy bug.

Due to Continue

School district officials said that the absent rate in city schools has shown a steady rise all week, reaching its height on Thursday and Friday when some 20 percent of the students were away from their desks because of the epidemic.

Late in reaching Torrance, the flu is fast making great strides to overcome the initial lag.

Health officials say that the epidemic will probably last longer here because of its late arrival.

Severity of the epidemic is expected to be less than that in crowded Los Angeles.

FAIR SEASON OPENS

California's fair season opens with the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival at Indio, Feb. 12 through 22. Fairs attract more people than any other event held during the year.

OSTRICH RACES HELD

Ostriches, which will be raced daily at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival at Indio, have been clocked at 45 miles per hour. Festival dates are Feb. 12 through 22.

Navy Examines YMCA Helmet

Navy experts today identified the helmet found by three Torrance youths as almost exactly like the ones in current naval use.

Origin Still Mystery

Chief Warrant Officer Alfred Sokolowski, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team commander from the Seal Beach Ammunition and Net Depot, said that the copper helmet is the same type as that used today. He explained that the current model does have a few slight improvements lacking on the one found by the three boys on their YMCA trip up the Colorado River.

Says Helmet Shipshape

Sokolowski said, "This helmet is in very good condition. With a few small repairs, it could be used." Joe Wilcox, YMCA Executive Secretary and new owner of the 52-pound diving helmet, breathed a fervent wish at that. "I hope they, the boys, don't get that idea in their heads," he said. "So far, they haven't thought of it."

Sokolowski, a diving veteran of seven years experience, demonstrated that it would be perfectly safe — if the helmet were repaired. He added that his three

man team seldom uses a helmet, preferring the freedom of skin-diving gear.

Gunner's Mate 1/c Mervin G. Geopfert, and Boatswain's Mate 2/c Sherman Byrd, both with six years of diving experience agreed with their commander.

None of the three could shed any light on the mystery of the helmet's finding.

Sokolowski insisted that it was not a piece of equipment carelessly tossed aside. He placed its value at approximately \$350, the price the U.S. Navy pays for similar helmets.

Speculation Vain

According to the handsome young officer, the Navy maintains a diving unit at Hoover Dam but holds the unit strictly accountable for equipment.

In any case, the helmet was found some 50 miles upstream from Hoover Dam and all concerned admit that it would be a little difficult for the helmet to wash up the river.

Sokolowski advised writing to the Bureau of Ships at the Navy Department in Washington, D.C., for a reliable report concerning the helmet's last official owner.

Inside the Press

Today's feature story begins a series describing the city at night. With action photos, today's Part One of the City at Night takes you on scene with the city police. See Page A-4.

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